

Appl. No.: 10/663,594
Amendment dated October 21, 2004
Reply to Office action of July 28, 2004

Amendments to the Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A thermoelectric generator comprising a plurality of thin-film n-type and p-type semiconductor elements that are placed alternately on a dielectric substrate ~~made of a ceramic~~ and are connected in pairs at their ends to form a plurality of thermocouples, ~~characterized in that wherein~~ said elements are polycrystalline semiconductor ceramics and ~~in that the dielectric substrate is thermally insulating and made of a microporous ceramic and has a thermal conductivity of less than 0.5 W/mK.~~
2. (Cancelled)
3. (Currently Amended) The generator as claimed in Claim 1, ~~characterized in that wherein~~ the semiconductor ceramics have thicknesses of less than 2 mm.
4. (Currently Amended) The generator as claimed in Claim 1, ~~characterized in that wherein~~ the semiconductor ceramics are sintered on the substrate.
5. (Currently Amended) The generator as claimed in Claim 1, ~~characterized in that wherein~~ the semiconductor elements deposited on the substrate are connected in series and/or in parallel.
6. (Currently Amended) The generator as claimed in Claim 1, ~~characterized in that it comprises and comprising~~ a plurality of superposed substrates carrying semiconductor elements, the semiconductor elements of ~~[[the]]~~ a substrate being connected together in series and being connected in series or in parallel to the semiconductor elements of another substrate.
7. (Currently Amended) The generator as claimed in Claim ~~[[1]]~~ 6, ~~characterized in that wherein~~ the substrates are in the form of strips, cylinders, washers or half-washers.
- 8-15 (Cancelled)

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16. (Currently Amended) The generator as claimed in Claim 3 wherein the semiconductor ceramics have a thickness ~~between~~ greater than 0.04 mm and lower than 2 mm.